

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 ICA-11
NSC-05 OES-07 OMB-01 NEAE-00 /086 W
-----014769 301807Z /45 13

P R 300750Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8263
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
US MISSION GENEVA 663
USUN NEW YORK 776
DEA HQS WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 4363

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (REFERENCES OMITTED)

MANILA: FOR USADB

PARIS: FOR DEA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, UN, AF
SUBJECT: AFGHAN INTERIOR MINISTER WANTS TO ERADICATE OPIUM
PRODUCTION

REF: A. STATE 133769 B. KABUL 4256

1. ON MAY 27, NOOR AHMAD NOOR, AFGHAN MINISTER OF INTERNAL
AFFAIRS, TOLD ARTHUR N. HOLCOMBE, UNDP'S RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE,
AD INTERIM, AND FRITZ LOEBUS, THE UNDP ASSISTANT RESIDENT
REPRESENTATIVE WHO OVERSEES NARCOTICS AFFAIRS, THAT HE WANTS
TO SEE OPIUM PRODUCTION COMPLETELY ERADICATED IN AFGHANISTAN.
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HE HAS ASKED THE UN TO COME UP WITH AN ACTION PLAN FOR ACHIEVING
THIS GOAL -- SETTING THE END OF JUNE AS A TARGET DATE FOR ITS
SUBMISSION. IN VIEW OF THE NEED FOR U.N. NARCOTICS ADVISOR
CHRISTIAN MAGNUSSEN'S EXPERTISE, NOOR HAS REQUESTED THAT THE
GERMAN EXPERT DELAY HIS DEPARTURE (PARAGRAPH 1-C OF REFTEL B)
IN ORDER TO HELP PREPARE THE ACTION PLAN.

2. ONCE THE PLAN IS READY, DECLARED NOOR, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN (DRA) WOULD LIKE TO HAVE UNFDAC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REXED COME TO AFGHANISTAN TO DISCUSS IT. NOOR THOUGHT THE DRA OUGHT TO BE READY TO TALK WITH REXED "EARLY IN JULY."

3. WHEN HOLCOMBE LEARNED THAT REXED WAS PLANNING TO INVITE MOHAMMAD YAHYA MAROOFI TO STOP BY GENEVA EN ROUTE BACK TO KABUL FROM THE SSOD CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK (REFTEL A), HE INITIALLY THOUGHT THAT THIS WAS NOT A PARTICULARLY GOOD IDEA BECAUSE MAROOFI MAY NOT YET HAVE SHIFTED HIS THINKING ON NARCOTICS MATTERS TO TRACK WITH NOOR'S (WHO NOW APPEARS TO BE CALLING THE SHOTS IN THIS AREA). GIVING THE IDEA SOME FURTHER THOUGHT, HOWEVER, HOLCOMBE DID NOT SEE ANY PROBLEMS WITH A REXED-MAROOFI MEETING PROVIDED THAT REXED WAS ADVISED NOT TO GET TOO INVOLVED IN SUBSTANCE WITH MAROOFI. WE ARE INCLINED TO AGREE WITH HOLCOMBE, WHO WE UNDERSTAND IS CABLING THIS ADVICE TO GENEVA. IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHETHER MAROOFI CONTINUES TO SPEAK AUTHORITATIVELY FOR THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT IN THE NARCOTICS FIELD -- OR INDEED WHETHER HIS POSITION IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IS SECURE.

ELIOT

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Message Attributes

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